

# Illinois Higher Ed *The Friday Memo*

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Chairwoman Carrie J. Hightman  
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ICCB  
Chairman Guy Alongi  
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ISAC  
Chairman Don McNeil  
Executive Director Andy Davis

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## A PUBLIC AGENDA FOR COLLEGE AND CAREER SUCCESS

### Draft Public Agenda hits the road for public hearings

Dozens of college and university administrators, faculty, students, and other interested higher education constituents attended the first three **public hearings** to voice their views about the Public Agenda for College and Career Success. The hearings – held at SIU in Carbondale, NIU in DeKalb, and EIU in Charleston –

offered the opportunity for feedback about the preliminary planning blueprint for higher education.

SIU President Glenn Poshard recommended a new student assistance program and Vice President John Haller proposed a “preferred provider” program for



Task Force members, **Rep. Chapin Rose** (left), **Sue Kaufman** (right) and **Frank Barbre** (center) joined **Judy Erwin**, IBHE Executive Director, to receive comments from EIU President **William Perry**, several faculty members, and others from the region.



*Northern Illinois University Chemistry professor, **Jon Carnahan** (left), senior chemistry major, **Erin Post** (center), and **Sen. Brad Burzynski** at the Public Agenda public hearing on October 20 at NIU. **Rep. Bob Pritchard** also attended the hearing to listen to comments and suggestions from the NIU community.*

collaboration between public universities and community colleges for bachelor's degree completion.

At the NIU hearing, Rep. Bob Pritchard and Sen.

### October

#### Public Agenda Hearings

**27** WIU-Quad Cities  
**31** UIS

**24** AAT Regional Conference:  
Dare to Communicate,  
Cooperate, Collaborate  
Heartland Community  
College, Bloomington

**30** Ill. HS to College Success  
Report Regional Forum  
College of DuPage, Glen  
Ellyn

### November

**5** Ill. HS to College Success  
Report Regional Forum  
Southwestern Illinois  
College, Belleville

**7** IBHE Faculty Advisory  
Council  
Sauk Valley Community  
College, Dixon

**10** Public Agenda Hearing,  
Chicago State University

**17** IBHE Disability Advisory  
Committee, IBHE,  
Springfield

**21** Public Agenda Task Force,  
Robert Morris College  
Chicago

Brad Burzynski pledged to champion the Public Agenda as a blueprint “to rejuvenate the education engine.” Task Force member Ron Kimberling, president of Argosy University, also attended the hearing. Erin Post, vice president of NIU’s Chem Club, discussed several aspects of her course of study, especially noting the usefulness of NIU’s research requirement for undergraduates that provides students with a real world experience conducting lab work with other team members, including faculty and graduate students. She recommended to the Task Force members to increase the number of graduates in the STEM-related fields and urged for adequate support, including up-to-date lab equipment, to make the students’ experiences relevant to the world of work awaiting them.

One topic of discussion at EIU was the need to focus on the alignment and transfer issues not only between community colleges and four-year institutions but also at the high school level, so students experience smooth transitions throughout the educational pipeline.

Three more hearings are planned: October 27 at Western Illinois University’s Quad Cities campus in Moline, October 31 at the University of Illinois at Springfield, and November 10 at Chicago State University, Chicago. The draft document is available on the IBHE website to which public comments can be sent as well.

### [Ex-Shawnee VP named to ICCB; Rake gets new term](#)

Governor Blagojevich has appointed James W. Dumas of Tamms to the Illinois Community College Board. Dumas fills the term of the late Angela Perez-Miller. He retired as vice president for student administrative services at Shawnee Community College in 2000. Geoff Obrzut, President and CEO at ICCB, also announced that Judith Rake has been appointed to a new term on the board.

### [ISAC bus trip puts students on highway to the future](#)

CHICAGO – Thirty high school students from Roberto Clemente Community Academy boarded a bus Wednesday destined for the University of Illinois Champaign-Urbana for a trip they know could change the direction of their lives. The trip was organized through the new *Illinois College Guides* initiative, an innovative partnership comprised of the University of Illinois System, Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC), and the National College Advisory Corps (NCAC). The goal of the Illinois College Guides is to put students who may never have considered post-secondary education on the path to a college degree. The students targeted by the Illinois College Guides program are often the first in their family to consider attending college.

### [Governor announces scholarship program for civil engineers](#)

With a record number of civil engineers expected to retire within the next few years, Governor Rod R. Blagojevich has announced the Illinois Department of Transportation’s first Civil Engineer Scholarship Program. Scholarships provided as part of this new program will give selected students up to \$7,000 per academic year as an incentive to continue their civil engineering education.

### **Clarification**

The Friday Memo reported October 10 on a presentation by Andy Davis, ISAC Executive Director, to the Board of Higher Education in which he stated that no four-year public university has combined tuition and fee rates below \$9,000. Using IBHE's standard methodology, tuition and fees at some four-year schools are below that threshold. In the case of Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, the discrepancy resulted from a difference in the number of credit hours used to calculate annual student costs, along with different treatment of certain student fees. ISAC also does not include Governors State University, which offers bachelor's degree-completion programs, in the category of "four-year public universities."

## *People in the News*

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Southern Illinois University President Glenn Poshard has announced that [Paul Sarvela](#), dean of the SIUC College of Applied Sciences and Arts, has been selected as the University's next vice president for academic affairs.

Western Illinois University student [Ashley Mason](#) will be a bit busier this academic year. A junior in WIU's agriculture department, the 20-year Canton native was recently named a National Collegiate Agricultural Ambassador by the National Future Farmers of America (FFA) organization. The honor will propel her on travels across the country to tell the story of the importance of the agriculture industry.

[Barbara R. O'Connor](#), the chief of police and director of public safety at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, has been named police chief at the University of Illinois.

Dr. [Norman C. Teeter](#), who along with his wife Carmelita Teeter, M.D. have given generously to Western Illinois University's College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) academic departments and have made the University the beneficiary of the largest planned gift in Western's history - - a \$20 million trust - - was presented the inaugural College of Arts and Sciences Distinguished Alumnus Award at the college's 50th anniversary celebration and second annual scholarship fund raising dinner Oct. 18.

## *Campus News*

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### [New Grant to Fund Scholarships for Minority Nursing Students](#)

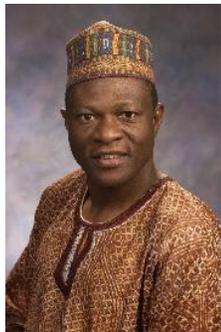
The University of Illinois at Chicago has received a grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to establish a scholarship so more minority students can enter the College of Nursing's graduate entry program. Beginning in January, eight new students will receive \$10,000 scholarships to defray the cost of nursing school. UIC's graduate entry program is a master's level, accelerated entry-into-practice curriculum for highly qualified individuals who have already completed a bachelor's degree in another field.

### [Illinois Legends to Help Rededicate EIU's Doudna Fine Arts Center](#)

Eastern Illinois University will celebrate the formal rededication of the newly expanded and renovated Doudna Fine Arts Center with the help of three Illinois arts legends. The celebration, to take place Oct. 24-26, will include the dedication of a major sculpture

by Ruth Duckworth, a concert by legendary gospel and soul great Mavis Staples, and comedy by the venerable comedy troupe Second City.

### [African American Studies Lecture Series at WIU](#)



To commemorate the founding of the academic field of African American studies (AAS), Western's AAS department is presenting a series of lectures on the theme "African American Studies Today" throughout the 2008-2009 school year. AAS faculty members will present the lectures, which will highlight some of the important current issues in the field of African American studies.

### [U. of I., Singapore establishing information technology center](#)

The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and the Agency for Science, Technology and Research, or A\*STAR, a Singapore government agency that oversees 22 research institutes, consortia and centers, are establishing a major research center in Singapore. The Advanced Digital Sciences Center will be focused on breakthrough innovations in information technology that are expected to have a major impact in transforming human beings' utilization of information technology.

### [MORE CAMPUS NEWS](#)

## [\*News from Higher Education\*](#)

### [SIUC to offer in-state tuition in Missouri, Kentucky, Indiana](#) (The Southern Illinoisan)

The Southern Illinois University Board of Trustees has given informal approval to a plan offering in-state tuition rates at SIU Carbondale for college-bound high school students living in Missouri, Kentucky, and Indiana.

### [UIS wins award for online education excellence](#) (Springfield State Journal-Register)

The University of Illinois at Springfield is among nine universities to win 2008 awards from a national consortium for excellence in online education.

### [State Budget Cuts Push Tuition Higher](#) (The Wall Street Journal)

State budget deficits are forcing already cash-strapped public universities to increase tuition, lay off employees and, in some states, cut enrollment.

**[‘Portrait’ of Latino Freshmen](#)**

(Inside Higher Ed)

A new report tracking changes among Latino college freshmen over more than 30 years is striking, in part, for all that’s stayed more or less the same.

**[MORE NEWS FROM HIGHER EDUCATION](#)**

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